

Younkin Family News Bulletin

Volume 2 #3

July, August, September 1991

Donna Younkin Logan, Publisher

Dear Cousins...

First and foremost — plans are well underway for the first nationwide Younkin Family Reunion to be held in over 50 years. I am so excited I can hardly wait.

On a recent trip to Somerset my mom and I had the opportunity to meet quite a few of the "Somerset Younkins" — Betty (Younkin) Sanner, Kay Lyn (Younkin) Wilson, Avis (Younkin) Engleka, Eloise (Younkin) Kreger, Everett Sechler and Clark Brocht. They were great and we had a wonderful time tromping through the old bedraggled (and I do mean bedraggled) cemeteries, digging up our ancestors tombstones that had been buried for untold years. We spent hours at the courthouse researching the Younkin family records. But most importantly my mother and I were treated like visiting royalty. Everyone made us feel like the "cousins" that we are. They ALL made sure we had everything we needed and they made themselves available to assist in anyway they could. The Younkins of Somerset (and surrounding areas) are super people — just wait 'til you meet them!

I do have one concern about the reunion and that is that not as many as I had hoped of the Somerset cousins have signed up as yet (oh, don't get me wrong — The Somerset families will be well-represented!). My concern is that there are virtually hundreds of them (if not thousands!) that live right there. I have racked my brain trying to figure out what can be done about this situation — why haven't I heard from more of them?

Well, after talking to some of them, I think we've figured it out. They just don't realize that all of the Younkins are cousins! That this is, in fact, THEIR FAMILY REUNION! I called Avis Engleka, and she and I decided it would be good if we personalized the entire endeavor. She and a couple more of the cousins up there are going to call each and every cousin in the phone book and let them know that if they miss this reunion they will be missing THEIR family reunion! There is still plenty of time to sign up — I have to give the caterer an exact "head count" 3 days before the reunion.

This newsletter will be going to the printer before Avis and the others can make the calls so keep your fingers crossed. I even told Avis to tell them that if their name was Younkin and they could PROVE they weren't a member of our family, I'd buy their dinner myself — Why? 'cause I know I won't have to buy any dinners!

I have also realized, thanks to some encouraging words from several of these cousins, that our turnout is, in fact, a good one (in comparison to other reunions). I also realized that the ones that are coming are very excited about meeting everyone and their enthusiasm has worn off on me. I am also told that many will just "drop in" at the picnic and the Friday night get-together (?to see how it's going?) — I pray that this is true — and they will be most welcome.

The cost of the reunion will only be \$11 per adult and \$5.50 per child — there will be NO EXTRA COLLECTIONS! This will cover everything for the day including — \$100 for the rental of the I.O.O.F. Grove, drinks, snacks, the catered dinner (by Somerset's Oakhurst Restaurant), all utensils, and lots of fun!

Thanks to a suggestion from Mark Miner, we have added one activity to the weekend. We will be videotaping the entire reunion. Beginning with the get-together on Friday evening, August 23rd, at 6 p.m. at the Ramada Inn in

Somerset. I have arranged to have a hospitality suite for us to gather in. On Saturday, everyone will have an opportunity to introduce themselves on videotape at the picnic and tell about their family and show any memorabilia that they bring with them. We will also tape the tours of the homeplaces, cemeteries, churches, and places where our families lived. Copies of the tapes will be available. The cost will be whatever the blank tapes cost plus postage to mail them. As always — non-profit!

This little face will be at the reunion — will yours?



Devon Michelle Younkin-Miller (age 2-1/2)
daughter of Jim and Jean (Younkin) Miller
of Richmond, Virginia
[and niece of your editor]

The following is an extract from a letter from Mark Miner about his recent Miner family reunion — it says it all!

One significant thing about the reunion was that strangers met strangers and developed relationships. I brought a large photograph taken at the 1920 Miner reunion. One stranger pointed to people in the picture and said, 'There's my father and mother,' and another stranger pointed to others and said, 'That's my grandfather and grandmother,' and I said, 'They were cousins,' and all of a sudden these strangers connected psychologically, and friendships were created.

One other item — I will have name tags for everyone and on each person's tag will be a color-coded dot to show which of the brothers they descend from (i.e. Blue for Jacob, Green for Frederick, Red for John, Yellow for Rudolph, and purple for Henry). This will make it a lot easier for everyone since most people don't know each other yet and it could be awfully confusing, at first, trying to tell everyone your lineage (especially with so many Johns, Fredericks, Henrys, etc.) I will be bringing all of my files with me so those of you who haven't identified your line, as yet, will be able to. I will also bring all the old newsletters, photographs, etc. that I have collected over the past years so everyone can see them.

I am looking forward to meeting all of you and having a great time at the reunion.

Donna

P.S. — so is the rest of my family, they are all coming including my grandfather, Karst Eugene Younkin, he'll be the one wearing the railroad cap!

Younkins of Frederick County, Maryland

The Younkins family roots grow deep within the borders of Frederick County, Maryland.

The ancestry begins with the birth, on June 10, 1816, of John Younkins.

"Johanes", as the church register records his given name, was baptized at the German Reformed Church (now Christ Reformed United Church of Christ) in Middletown, on October 6, 1816. His mother is listed in this record as Barbara Alexander (no father's name is given) and his sponsor was Maria Esther Lotter. I have tried diligently to find the father's name for John but have not been able to.

The only other record I have been able to find on an earlier Younk(s) living in the Frederick County area is John Younk(s), son of Rudolph/Ralph. He is listed on the register at Zion Church, of Middletown, as a communicant on 29 May 1814. In a letter in John's War of 1812 pension file he states that he was living in the Middletown area until about 1817.

It should be noted that Zion Lutheran and the German Reformed Churches were across the street from each other in Middletown. Also that the minister that served Zion Lutheran in Middletown also served (and at the same time) the New Jerusalem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lovettsville, Loudoun County, Va. this being the church that John's father Rudolph attended.

Notice should also be given that often an "illegitimate" (geeze, do I hate that word — but for lack of a better one...) child was given the father's name. But in genealogy one must be very careful not to draw conclusions based on circumstantial evidence! We have not PROVED who John's father is!

Little is known of young John's boyhood but he no doubt spent it much as any other youngster would in the Middletown Valley of Frederick County.

On June 18, 1840, the "Church Book of Evangelical Lutheran Church called Zion's Church in & about Middletown" shows the following marriage as recorded by the Rev. Michael Wächter: "June 18th John Younkins to Sarah Jane Fish — \$2.00."

John and Sarah apparently rented property during the first few years of their marriage as John's first purchase of property was not until September 5, 1853, and was recorded April 3, 1854, in Frederick County Deed Book ES 3, page 503-505.

This purchase included parts of three tracts of land: 1) described as a part of the tract of land called "Timber & Stone" containing approximately 5 acres; 2) part of a tract lying partially in "Timber Lot" and partially in "Stemle's Lot" of approximately 1-1/2 acres, and 3) a part of a tract called "Locust Valley" being about a quarter of an acre.

The sellers of the property were Charles P. Norris and wife, Elizabeth; Adam Koogle and wife, Catherine; and Samuel Remsburg. The deed also states that John was already occupying the property.

The 1876 map of property owners in Frederick County shows John living in an area just west of Bolivar. Various newspaper accounts of the family state that they resided in an area called "New Baltimore".

Though John's mother, Barbara Alexander, maintained her membership at the German Reformed Church throughout her life, John and his family attended the church across the street — Zion Lutheran.

Barbara's burial record is recorded in the German Reformed Church records but attempts to find her stone in the Reformed Cemetery have proved fruitless. Her obituary stated that she died at John's home in New Baltimore.

Zion Lutheran's church records give us a complete record of the family of John & Sarah Younkins.

Their first-born child, Frances Ann Catherine, was born February 26, 1841, and was baptized on July 29, 1841, by the

Rev. Wächter. Frances married Henry Kephart and at the time of her death on January 29, 1901, she left to survive her a husband and eight children.

Frances' obituary stated that she resided on "South Mountain, near Dahlen," and that she died after a "sickness of about two years of asthma and dropsy." Frances' death occurred only four days after the death of her mother, which occurred January 25, 1901. And her father, John, died only three months later on April 23, 1901. All three are buried at Zion Lutheran Cemetery.

John and Sarah's second child was Carlton Melancthon, born May 13, 1843, and baptized at Zion Lutheran on May 3, 1844. Carlton married Margaret "Ellen" Sigler and had the following children: Laura Frances, Emma Viola (Poffenberger), Romer Calvin, Katie Blanche (Gaver), Sarah Elizabeth (Longanecker), Bertha Jane (Grams), John Russell, Estie May (Routzahn) and Emory Stanley. Carlton died on September 5, 1925, and his wife December 10, 1896. They are both buried in the Zion Church Cemetery.

Martin Luther Younkins, third child of John and Sarah was born on February 12, 1846, and on September 20, 1866, he married Caroline S. Koogle, daughter of Capt. Jacob and Mary Elizabeth (Poffenberger) Koogle. They also raised their family in the "New Baltimore" area and their children were: Fannie M. (Bere), Lola R. (Haller), Arba W., William J., Hattie E. and Sallie May (Brooks). Martin and Caroline are buried in the German Reformed Cemetery.

John William Taylor Younkins, child number four of John and Sarah, was born September 28, 1848. He married first on February 10, 1868, to Indiana "Elizabeth" Reeder, daughter of David and Ruth (Alexander) Reeder. They had nine known children: Lillie May (Forrest), Charles Walter, John David, William Edward, Sarah Elizabeth Ruth (Foreman), Minnie Alice (Heffner), Zella Elizabeth (McBride), Jasper Philhower and Lewis E. McComas Younkins.

John's wife, Indiana "Elizabeth", died June 20, 1891, and he married second Cornelia A. Merryman. John and Cornelia had one son, Martin Abner Hamilton Younkins, born March 13, 1895.

According to descendants, John Jr. was a basket weaver by trade. He planted and grew his own cane for this purpose.

On February 3, 1851, Charlotte Elizabeth was born to John and Sarah. As a young adult Charlotte's life was not without its troubles. On Wednesday, May 31, 1871, the following appeared in the *Frederick Examiner* newspaper "About a fortnight ago, Miss Charlotte Younkins, a young lady of about 20 years of age, living in the family of Mr. J. D. Huffer, near Broad Run, in this [Frederick] County, attempted suicide by cutting her throat with a razor. We are informed that she stood before a glass and deliberately inflicted three or four deep gashes upon her throat, but repenting of what she had done, she attempted to arrest the flow of blood by stuffing her apron into the wounds. At the time of the occurrence, Mr. Huffer was absent from home, but upon its being discovered by Mr. George Tritupoe, a gentleman in the employ of Mr. Huffer, Dr. Hardy, of Burkittsville was sent for, who dressed the wounds. It was supposed at first that the wounds would prove fatal, but we have ascertained that she is improving and will recover. The cause of the deed has not been definitely stated, but it seems to be the general impression in the neighborhood, that is 'was misplaced affection'". Charlotte was married near Mt. Tabor on March 11, 1874, to Amos C. O'Neal.

Continued on page 3

Margaret Trout Younkin wife of John Younkin*

*John Younkin was the son of Rudolph/Ralph and grandson of the Immigrant Johan Henrich 'Henry' Junghe

YOUNKIN—Margaret Younkin, daughter of Casper and Mary Ann Trout, was born in Loudoun County, Va. November 13, 1800, and died Jan. 11, 1892 aged 91 years, 1 month and 28 days.

When a child moved with her parents to Rockingham County, Va. Then when 15 years old came to Muskingum County, Oh., and three years later to Morgan County, where she was united in marriage to John Younkin February 8th, 1820, and moved to their new home in Bearfield township, Perry County, 2 1/2 miles south of Deavertown, where they resided until her death. She united with the Lutheran church when 15 years old. She was a kind mother, loving wife and good neighbor. She never lost an opportunity to attend the church of her choice as long as her health would permit. She leaves a large circle of relatives and friends to mourn their loss.

A.B.

Margaret Younkin, widow of John Younkin, had a stroke of paralysis the evening of the 8th of January and died the evening of the 11th. Interment at the Holcomb church cemetery, 13th. Aunt Peggy, as she was familiarly called, and 'Squire Younkin (who died ten years ago last July, lacking a few days of being 90 years old) were among the pioneers of Perry County. He entered the farm on which he resided until his death when it was all in woods; not a stick of timber cut until he went to build himself a log cabin to live in. They had nine sons and five daughters eleven of whom are yet living; some in the west and some here with their mother, to care for her in her infirm age, she being in her ninety-second year. She lived to see home after home and churches and school houses and towns grow up, and the wild forests disappear as well as the wolves that used to howl around their cabin. It was a great pleasure to her to tell of early times. She was the oldest lady in Bearfield Township.

[Both from the New Lexington Tribune-21 Jan 1892]

Younkins of Frederick County, Maryland

Continued from page 2

Oliver Melvin Columbus Younkens was the sixth child and fourth son born to John and Sarah. Oliver was born on June 29, 1853, and baptized at the Zion Lutheran Church on April 11, 1854, by Rev. John McCron. On November 13, 1874, Oliver took the hand of Charlotte "Elizabeth" Kaetzel in marriage. Charlotte was the daughter of Christian and Catherine (Bovey) Kaetzel.

Oliver spent the majority of his adult life in the Trego/Brownsville areas of Washington County. He served his community as a registrar of Washington County and as a trial magistrate. He also served as a teacher for over 50 years in Washington County. But he is most remembered by his descendants for his religious convictions. He was an active member of the Brownsville Church of the Brethren and it was in the church cemetery where he was laid to rest.

Oliver and Charlotte Younkens had 10 children: Rosa C. (Davidson), Morse Alvey, Sarah E., Annie (Waters), Nellie (Nokes), Fae (Goldstone), Gladys A. "Gussie" (Gordon), John Christian, Orville Burris and Maltby Cleveland "Bud" Younkens.

After Charlotte's death in 1899, Oliver married Emma L.



More of Rudolph's descendants...

The family of John and Margaret (Trout) Younkin — Front row, from left, Lucetta Black Stanbery, Mrs. Frank Younkin, Mrs. Margaret (Younkin) Black, Miss Patty Younkin. Second row, from left: S. M. Stanbery, Ray Younkin, Jesse Black, John Black, Frank Younkin, Walter Younkin and Owen Stanbery. On the back of the photo is written—"picture taken May 30, 1937 at Black Home. Frank's father, Isaac Younkin, 97, is now living in Kansas. Margaret is his sister, 92." — The original picture is in the possession of Owen Stanbery, of Ohio. *Note: Margaret and Isaac were the children of John and Margaret (Trout) Younkin and grandchildren of Rudolph.

Hoffman (widow of Charles Farling). This marriage provided five more descendants to this line: Rhoda (Tritapoe), Thelma (Harrison), Ruth (Bireley), Ellsworth and Goldie (Johnson).

John and Sarah's seventh child was Emory Calvin Younkens. Emory married in 1876 to Laura Olivia Jones. They had two daughters: Carrie V. M. (Thomas) and Mamie Elizabeth (Ahalt). Laura died shortly after the birth of her second daughter, in 1882. Emory married again in 1884 to Emma E. Ray and they had four children: Susan, Emory, Edna G. and a daughter who married Alba Hutzell. For some reason, the two daughters of Laura, Carrie and Mamie, were raised by other families. Carrie was raised by a Remburg family and Mamie was raised by an Ahalt family.

John and Sarah's youngest child was Mary Celesta "Mollie" Younkens born March 6, 1861. Her marriage to Isaac Jones took place on January 1, 1885, at the home of her parents in Middletown Valley.

The descendants of this historic family of Younkens are many and for the most part still reside within the Frederick County area.

New Subscribers

Elroy T. Weimer — 436 Fourth Ave., New Kensington, Pa. 15068:

Elroy is not a new subscriber but I forgot to include his line so here it is: [Elroy Tedrow Weimer⁵, Harrison Regd Weimer & Enda G. Tedrow⁴, Levi Lincoln Weimer & Adeline Kreger¹, Jacob Weimer & Catherine Stahl², John (d. 1840) Weimer & Mary — 7-1]

Hal G. Ferguson — 1785 North 2000 West, Rexburg, ID. 83440:

[Hal Ferguson⁵, George K. Ferguson⁵, John Ferguson⁵ who m. Barbara Henry, John Henry⁶, Peter Henry¹ other names are: Friedline, Imel, Burkholder, Feaster, + others]

Ethel Riding — 124 Terrace View Ave., Wadsworth, OH. 44281:

[of the Westmoreland and Armstrong County, Pa. Younkins]

Velda Stitt — 1611 - 9th, Clay Center, KS. 67432:

[Velda Gingrich¹, Goldie Younkin⁶, Nessley⁵, Frederick J. ⁴, Jacob³, Henry¹] also [Velda Gingrich¹, Goldie Younkin⁶, Caroline Kreger, Sarah Miner⁶, Mary Younkin⁷] also [Velda Gingrich¹, Goldie Younkin⁶, Caroline Kreger⁶, Sarah Miner⁶, Henry Miner⁴, Henry Miner⁴, Catherine Younkin³, John², Henry³]

Diana Sue Fegan — 6975 Aumsville Hwy. SE, Salem, OR. 97301:

Her ancestry is not entirely clear but what she has is: Alfred Arthur Younkin married Lillian Rhoads (Diana's grandmother) Lillian's mother was Rachel (Phillippi) Younkin Hobson Wilkins. They lived in the Casselman area of Somerset County, Pa. Can anyone help?

Jill Odorich — 110 Tulip Lane, Beale AFB, Calif. 95903:

daughter of Terry and Elaine Younkin below.

Julie Beth Younkin — 1360 Babel Lane, Concord, Calif. 94518:

[Julie Beth⁶, Max Younkin⁷, Clarence Charles⁵, Edward Charles⁵, Jeremiah⁴, George², John², Henry¹]

Bob Grim Rufe — 119 Meriden Dr., Hockessin, Delaware 19707:

[interested in Hartzell, Rufe, Grim and other Bucks County, Pa. families allied to Younkin]

Roger Mall — 829 Blunt P. O. Box 132, Clay Center, KS. 67432:

[Roger Mall⁶, Gaye Snyder⁶, Josephine⁶, John Mitchell⁶, Moses⁴, Henry F.³, Frederick G.² Henry¹]

Terry and Elaine Younkin — 642 Main St., Rockwood, PA. 15557:

[Terry⁸, William Chalmers⁷, Harvey C.⁶, William Lincoln⁵, Frederick J.⁴, Jacob³, Jacob² Henry¹] plus [Georgianna Moon⁹ (wife of Harvey C.), Harriet Younkin⁵, Jacob W.⁴, Jacob³, Jacob², Henry¹]

Roger Younkin makes front page news in Washington Post!

On Monday, March 25, 1991, I received several phone calls from people asking if I had seen today's issue of the Washington [D.C.] Post. They wanted me to know that a YOUNKIN was on the front page! I quickly went out and picked up a copy. Yes, it was true, there was the "not so happy" face of Roger Younkin, of Hedrick, Iowa. The headline read — "Main Street Faces 'Economic Triage' — Dying Rural Town Resists Regionalization" by Barbara Vobejda, Washington Post Staff Writer. institutions—the bank, the grocery, the coffee shop—that define and bond the community.

"So residents of Hedrick were devastated last fall when the state ordered the town to close its only school and send its children to a neighboring district. After years of watching much of their Main Street shut down, they fear that the school closing could finally unravel the town, accelerating its decline into nothing more than a collection of houses."

I have to wonder just how many of our other midwest families are facing the same dilemma. Those families that once pioneered in the unknown prairies.

Corrections to previous issues:

Please note these corrections on your copies of the newsletters!

In YFNB Vol. 2 #1, page 11, col. 2, I incorrectly identified Kay Lyn (Younkin) Wilson's husband as Gerald A. Wilson it should have read Alan Wilson.

In YFNB Vol. 2 #1, page 16 — the family portrait of Moses and Frances (Turner) Younkin. The lineage should have read: [Moses Younkin⁴, John C. Younkin³, Frederick G. Younkin², Henry Junghen¹]

In YFNB Vol. 2 #1 page 7 — the *Social Security Records* article — It reads Ray Younkin — born 4 Mar 1884 died Jan. 1988. I received a letter from Charlotte Anderson of Glen Burnie, Md., his niece. She wrote, "It should be Roy Younkin instead of Ray. Roy was my uncle, and I went to his 100th birthday party, and to his funeral. He died Jan. 11, 1988 in Erie, Pa. and was buried Jan. 15, 1988 in Laurel Hill Cemetery in Erie. He was born in Rockwood, Somerset County, Pa. — the only offspring of Elias Polk and Emily Jane Younkin to be born there, as the other 10 were born in Meyersdale, Somerset Co., Pa. (Also, 9 others are buried in Union Cemetery, Meyersdale; only Roy and David F. Younkin are buried elsewhere)." — thanks for correcting the record.

Omission : Vol. 2 #2 page 7 WHERE DO OUR SUBSCRIBERS LIVE? — I left off Kansas where we have 9 subscribers!

*Hedrick, Iowa,
pop. 810, is
losing its school.
Superintendent
Roger Younkin,
right, says town
will resist
further
consolidations.
"It's community
pride."*



(Photo by Steve Pope for the Washington Post)



I Married a Younkin

Hello again, fellow I. M. A. Y.'s. You know my wife (the Younkin) is very interested in finding out how Younkins are similar to each other. Who looks like whom — similar professions — family accents — where they settled — the whole bit. Now some of my past articles have dealt with how Younkins have similar character traits. And at the same time, our daughter is a psychology major.

How does this all "fit" together, you may ask? It got me thinking that the Younkin family members might have a dominant mental condition that unites them as a family. Or in other words, are all Younkins the same kind of crazies?

I asked our daughter to tell me about the different kinds of nuttiness that there are. She explained to me that they don't use the terms "nuttiness", or "crazy" or "fruitcake". They are "mental disorders", and they are "illnesses" that can be treated. I shouldn't be making jokes about it. (She's a serious student).

"Come on, I'll be serious. Tell me about schizophrenia," I said.

"Schizophrenia" means a 'splitting' of the personality, but it's not multiple personalities. The patient may have normal intelligence, but they have serious difficulties adjusting to reality. They are usually withdrawn, isolated, and their emotions sort of diminish as the condition gets worse," my daughter explained.

"No, that doesn't sound like the Younkins. I've never seen their emotions diminish in any way. And that part about 'normal intelligence' might leave them out. What else have you got?"

"Well, you can have all types of neuroses. These usually result from repressed ideas or conflicts that occurred during childhood. These can include your obsessive and compulsive — (the people that wash their hands all the time), your hypochondriac, all of the phobias (fear of snakes, spiders, death, elevators, etc.). And there are a lot of other types..."

"No, that doesn't sound like the Younkins. They're usually fearless (even when they shouldn't be). What else is there?"

"Well, you have paranoia. These people have an exaggerated degree of self-love. They believe that other people act hostile and persecute them. But they are a little different than paranoid schizophrenics, because sufferers of paranoia seem to behave properly most of the time."

"Ok, that's a little closer to the Younkins. People do persecute and act hostile to them, but it's usually for a good reason."

"No dad, they just imagine the persecution — it's not really there."

"Well, that leaves the Younkins out. Do you have anything else?"

"Sure, you have your manic-depressive. They have big mood swings between deep depressions (they cry a lot), and manic 'highs' where they talk a lot, and seem very happy."

"No, I don't think that's it. Younkins can depress others, but they don't depress themselves. The manic part sounds about right, though."

My daughter said, "Well that's it then!"

"What do you mean?"

Some people are just manic! They never get the depression side. They talk excessively. Sometimes it seems like they will never shut up. And they move around all the time. They're very fitzy, and they might seem to be happy all the time, but they are many times sad. And sometimes..."

"Stop right there. Slow down, I think you have it. The Younkins are manics, without the depressives. Is that where the term 'manic' comes from?"

"It might."

"Can you do anything to make them better?"

"Well, most doctors prescribe lithium carbonate to reduce the severity of their attacks. But, when you're dealing with just the 'manic' personality, it's not very effective. You generally just have to live with their condition."

(Don't we know it, I. M. A. Y.'s — Don't we know!)

Rory Ryan



THIS LITTLE FACE WILL BE AT THE REUNION — WILL YOURS?

Gerald A. Wilson (age 3 1/2) — son of Alan and Kay Lyn (Younkin) Wilson of RD #1, Box 157; Markleton, Pa. 15551. Please note in the YFNB Vol. 2 #1 page 11, I incorrectly identified

this little guy's dad as Gerald A. Wilson it should have read Alan Wilson.

[Gerald A.¹⁰ Kay Lyn⁹, Gerald R.⁸, James⁷, Jacob⁶, Wesley⁵, Jacob⁴, Frederick³, Frederick², Henrich¹]

[Photo Courtesy Kay Lyn Wilson]

In Memory of

Charles Stewart

Charles Stewart, 64, of Cortland, Ohio, and formerly of Carmichaels, died at 4:42 a.m. Thursday, [died July 4, 1991] at his home after a nine-month illness.

He is survived by his wife, Grace Louise Younkin Stewart whom he married April 25, 1946, in Winchester, Va.; a son, James W. Stewart of Seattle, Wash.; a daughter, Connie F. Conway of Dumfries, Va.; six grandchildren; several nieces and nephews.

Katherine Utzig

DAVENPORT, IA. — Katherine E. Utzig, 91, of 3320 Spring St., died Sunday at Manor Care Nursing and Rehabilitation Center, Davenport.

Katherine Younkin married Horace P. Oaks in 1917 in Davenport. He died in 1941. She married Gerald A. Utzig in 1944 in Davenport. He died in 1966.

She was a lifelong member of St. John's United Methodist Church, Davenport.

Survivors include daughters, Ruthette Ryan, Davenport; Katherine Richards, Cedar Rapids, Iowa; and Patricia (Mrs. Earl) Madson, Davenport; a son, Horace Oaks, Davenport; 23 grandchildren; five great-grandchildren; and a sister, Orrell (Mrs. Clyde) Clark, Davenport.

Interment was in Davenport Memorial Park.

[Katherine⁷, Edmund⁶, Orlando Franklin⁵, Uriah⁴, Dr. Jonas³, Jacob², Henry¹]

Clair H. Younkin

Clair H. Younkin, 86, Tucson, Ariz., formerly of Johnstown, died July 1, 1991. Born in 1905 in Johnstown, son of Harry and Anna Younkin. Preceded in death by parents; sister, Louise Atkinson; and brothers, Clarence and Frank Younkin. He is survived by his wife, the former Mary (Lambert) Younkin. He was a teacher in Johnstown schools. After retirement, he worked in California with National Park Service and retired from there to Tucson. Funeral arrangements were by John Henderson Co. Funeral Home. The memorial service and masonic service were held at the Forest Lawn Chapel.

[Johnstown, Pa. newspaper]

[Clair H.⁶, Harry C.⁵, Uriah⁴, Aaron³, Henry², Henry¹]

Dwight W. Younkin

GREAT BEND, KS. — Dwight W. Younkin, 76, died May 1, 1991, at Central Kansas Medical Center, Great Bend.

He was born Feb. 26, 1915, at Great Bend, the son of Charles Franklin and Nannie S. Wilson Younkin. A Great Bend resident since Aug 1990, moving from Chase, he was a retired well tester for Gulf Oil and a farmer.

He was a member of St. Patrick Catholic Church, Great Bend.

On Aug. 13, 1940, he married Margaret Mary Lyons, daughter of Daniel Wilford and Margaret Ellen Malone Lyons, at Chase. She died Dec. 5, 1985.

Survivors include: four sons, Timothy Dwight, Nashville, Tenn.; Charles Daniel, Oklahoma City, Arthur Douglas, Mulvane, and Terrence "Terry" David, Great Bend; two brothers, George, Arlington, Texas, and Merrill, Edmonds,

Wash.; two sisters, Frances Fox and Patricia Baxter, both of Great Bend; and 11 grandchildren.

Vigil service was held at 7:30 p.m. Friday at Bryant-Christians Funeral Home, Great Bend. Funeral services were at 10 a.m. Saturday, May 4, at St. Patrick Catholic Church with Father Gerald Hammeke presiding. Burial was at St. Mary's Cemetery, Chase. Casketbearers were: Timothy D. Younkin, Chuck D. Younkin, Terry D. Younkin, Brandon "Lee" Younkin, Arthur D. Younkin, Jeremy G. Younkin. The music played was "On Eagles Wings", "How Great Thou Art", "Amazing Grace", with vocalists Nancy Baxter and Lori Underwood; Nancy Baxter, Pianist.

[Dwight W.⁶, Charles Franklin⁵, John Deitz⁴, Samuel³, Jacob², Henry¹]

Doris Carolyn Younkin

GREENSBURG — Doris Carolyn Younkin, 80, died March 4, 1991, at Kiowa County Memorial Hospital, Greensburg.

She was born April 1, 1910, at Harper, the daughter of Peter J. and Caroline Christoffer Ringler. A former resident of Wichita, and a resident of Greensburg since 1984, moving from Las Vegas, Nev., she was a homemaker and a former administrator at the Student Union at the University of Kansas, Lawrence.

She was a member of the Reformation Lutheran Church, Tri Psi Sorority Mothers Club, Rolling Hills Country Club, and was past president of the Women's Golf Association at Meadowlark Golf Club, all at Wichita, and was a member of the Tropicana Golf Club, Las Vegas, Nev.

On April 7, 1936, she married R. Allan Younkin at Wichita. He died June 5, 1985.

[Hutchinson News, 5 Mar 1991; Hutchinson, Kansas newspaper]

Chester Raymond Younkin

HAYS, KS. — Chester Raymond Younkin, 69, died May 14, 1991, at Hadley Regional Medical Center, Hays.

He was born July 19, 1921, at Great Bend, the son of John K. and Edna Verbeck Younkin. A Hays resident for 20 years, moving from Great Bend, he was a retired jeweler and salesman.

He was a member of St. Mark's Lutheran Church and the American Legion, both at Great Bend, and was a U. S. Army-Air Force veteran of World War II.

On Aug. 28, 1942, he married B. Lucille Jensen at Wichita. She survives.

Other survivors include: two brothers, Paul, Redding, Calif.; and Harold, Great Bend; and a sister, Marietta Showalter, Glen Ellen, Calif.

Memorial services were held Friday, May 17, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church, Great Bend, with the Rev. Leonard Dale presiding.

[Chester Raymond⁶, John King⁵, John Deitz⁴, Samuel³, Jacob², Henry¹]

Birth Announcement

Patrick Thomas Read — born 17 Apr 1991, in Fairfax, Virginia. Son of Robert Mark & Megan Marie (Murphy) Read. He weighed 9 pounds and 4 ounces and was 21 1/2 inches long. His grandparents are Joseph Patrick and Elaine (Lauter) Murphy and the late Thomas David Read and Jacqueline Wilson.

[Patrick Read⁹, Megan Murphy⁸, Joseph Patrick Murphy⁷, Samuel Alfred Murphy who married Nancy Finegan⁶, dau. of John Thomas and Eliza⁵ Younkin Finegan, Eliza was the daughter of Charles L.⁴ and Nancy (Henry) Younkin, George³, John², Henry¹]

Best Wishes on your 50th Wedding Anniversary

50

1941

1991

*We thank you
Friends and neighbors
And relatives so dear,
For all the joys you've wished us,
And for your presence here.
Now when this day is over,
And our guests are on their way,
The memory of this joyous time
Will ever with us stay.*

Dale and Velda



Dale and Velda Stitt, Clay Center, Kansas

[Velda Gingrich⁷, Goldie Younkin⁶, Nessley⁵, Frederick J. ⁴, Jacob,³ Jacob², Henry¹] also [Velda Gingrich⁷, Goldie Younkin, Caroline Kreger, Sarah Miner^d, Mary Younkin, ?] also [Velda Gingrich⁷, Goldie Younkin⁶, Caroline Kreger⁶, Sarah Miner^d, Henry Miner^d, Catherine Younkin³, John², Henry¹]

Obituaries in Genealogy

At the risk of sounding totally morbid — one of the best tools a genealogist has are obituaries. They help in many ways to trace family lines:

- 1) they offer birth, marriage and death dates of deceased
- 2) they show the children's names and where they were living at the time of the death
- 3) they show married names of the immediate family (something that is usually quite hard to find otherwise, especially with multiple marriages)
- 4) they show who is still living in the immediate family — the deceased's siblings, parents, children, etc.
- 5) they tell us how many children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren we should be looking for (they all need to be accounted for!)
- 6) they tell us much about the individual's life — where they were born, and where they lived throughout their life, occupation, military service, where they went to church (or at least their religion) so that we have the potential to find their children's baptismal records and possibly their marriage record, and where they are buried.
- 7) they often tell about the deceased person's spouse (i.e. they were the son/daughter of ?)

When submitting obituaries to the YFNB please note the name and issue date and city where published of the newspaper so that if the exact date of death is not in the article itself, I can figure it out from the date of the newspaper (i.e. if the paper was issued Wednesday, April 3, 1991, and the person died "yesterday" - I'll know they died April 2, 1991)

Also, please remember — newspapers are notorious for getting the wrong information into "print" - what appears in the newspapers still needs to be verified with actual records — at best they give us a place to start!

If you live in or near the town where one of the family members died — it would help tremendously if you would take some time and look up obituaries for us. They can normally be found on microfilm at local libraries and can be copied directly from the microfilm with a special microfilm copier.

Remember that old obituaries were very different than what you see today — they were often a tribute to the person and could take up a quarter of a page of the newspaper. That's a lot of information (and probably includes a photograph!) on your ancestor and certainly worth a couple hours at the library!



Puzzle Pieces

Below you will find a record on a Younkin that we can't identify. We would appreciate any information on them. In the next issue I will gather additional records for people whom we've found but don't have enough information to place them in their proper place on the family tree.

Marriage Record: 10 Nov 1911 in San Diego, Calif, Arletta Younkin married William Stanley Dressler.



Engagements



Glenda Johnston and Gregory Chance

Mr. Glen R. Johnston of West Frankfort, ILL., wishes to announce the engagement of his daughter, Glenda K., to Gregory Dean Chance, also of West Frankfort. Glenda is also the daughter of the late Virginia Lee Johnston.

The groom-elect is the son of Ron and Pat (Younkin) Chance of West Frankfort.

The bride-to-be is a senior at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, seeking a bachelor of arts degree in elementary and special education. She is currently student teaching in Benton.

Chance is a 1987 graduate of Southern Illinois University at Carbondale with a bachelor of arts degree in administration of justice. He is employed by the Fairview Heights Police department as a police officer.

They are making plans for an August 17 wedding.

[Gregory Dean Younkin², Pat Younkin³, Victor Harold Younkin⁷, Harry Lewis⁴, Lewis Washington², John H.⁴, ?John J.³, Jacob², Henry¹]

Attention...Rhoads family researchers

Through a query I placed in the Bucks County Penn. Genealogical Society newsletter I obtained the names of two people that are also researching the Bucks County Rhoads family that married our Younkins. There are: Barbara Erlenbach, 15 Dorset Lane, Brookfield, CT. 06804, and Roy Steiner, 4920 Manderson St., Omaha, NE. 68104-3016. They would welcome corresponding with other descendants of the Younkin/Rhoads families.

Attention...McMillen family researchers

I received a letter from Neila Rohan, Box 91, Everly, IA. 51338; and she had just returned from a research trip to Salt Lake City, Utah, she writes: "Had a good time in Salt Lake and found quite a few ancestors that I have been looking for. Need to go back and spend a month. Have started collecting McMillen data maybe for a sort of newsletter. If you are a McMillen descendant please write to Neila. (personal note to Neila, see article in this issue 'Bits & Pieces')"

Bits & Pieces

The following are extracts from issues of the quarterly publication *SOMERSET PAST the history and genealogy of Somerset County, Pennsylvania*. Published by Southwest Genealogical Services, P.O. Box 253-J, Laughlinton, PA. 15655. Note all spellings are as they appear in the record.

Vol. 7 #2, pg.24 — Sheriff and Treasurer Deeds, Somerset County, Docket A: 4 Feb 1830. James IMHOFF Esq., sheriff of Somerset County, appeared in open Court and acknowledged his deed to Samuel G. BAILEY Esq. for one house and lot in Somerset Borough on the south side of Patriot Street, adjoining a lot of Andrew STEWART on the east. This deed subject to a mortgage to Jonas YOUNKIN. Land sold as the property of Francis KERNAN at the suit of Robert GILMORE's administrators for \$20. (page 16)

[Jonas³, Jacob², Henry¹]

Vol. 7 #2, pg.12 — Marriage Certificates: Somerset County, 1852 - 1855 Elijah CROSSAN, farmer, s/o David and Susan, born in Upper Turkeyfoot Twp., now residing in Upper Turkeyfoot Twp., and Meriah MCCLINTOCK, d/o Robert and Ann, were married 27 Nov 1853 in Upper Turkeyfoot Twp. in a Binns Justice ceremony performed by Samuel K. KING, J. P., of Upper Turkeyfoot Twp.

[After the death of Elijah CROSSAN, Mariah MCCLINTOCK married Michael YOUNKIN (see YFNB Vol. 2 #1 pg. 14 UPDATE: on this line. Frederick Elijah YOUNKIN, s/o Michael and Mariah states in this letter that his maternal grandmother, Mariah's mother, was Mary [Ann], d/o John J. Younkin)

Vol. 7 #3, pg.17 — 1857 Tax List Upper Turkeyfoot Twp., Somerset County, Pa., () = assessed value of each item.

Jacob Younkin (of F.): farmer; 204 acres (1,274); 2 horses (150); 2 cows (25).

Frederick Younkin Jr.: farmer; 130 acres (210); 2 cows (20) Hermon Younkin: farmer; 216 acres (680); 2 horses (5); 6 cows (60)

Eli Younkin: farmer; 135 acres (378); 1 horse (40); 3 cows (30)

Frederick F. Younkin: farmer; 156 acres (655); 2 horses (80); 10 cows (100); 1 carriage (60); 177 acres (744)

TENANTS:

John M. Younkin: laborer (40); 1 horse (20); 2 cows (16)

John Younkin (of J.): laborer (40)

Jacob W. Younkin: laborer (40); 2 cows (25)

Widow Younkin: 1 cow (10); \$100 in promissory notes

Isaac Younkin: Laborer (40)

SINGLE FREEMEN:

Eli M. Younkin: laborer (40); militia man

Vol. 7 #4, pg.3 — Will and Administration Abstracts, Somerset County, Will Book 2:

George MAY of Somerset Twp. Letters of Administration granted 16 Jan 1828 to George CHORPENNING of Somerset Borough. Bond: \$1,000. Sureties: Jacob NEFF and Abm. YOUNKIN. Witness: Alexander OGLE Jr. Renunciation of Catherine (X) MAY, widow, in favor of George CHORPENNING, filed. Witness: Robert FLETCHER. (page 491).

Vol. 7 #5, pg.27 — Land transactions Somerset County, Deed book 30:

1 Jul 1859. Deed. Jacob H. YOUNKIN of Lower Turkeyfoot Twp. and Sarah his wife to William R. MOUNTAIN (administrator of Jonathan MOUNTAIN deceased) of the same place. (page 424).

(Continued on Page 10)

Update on the Younkin/Minerd line...

by Mark A. Miner

The connection between the Younkin and Minerd family can be traced to about 1802, when Jacob Minerd married Catherine Younkin. They settled near her parents' farm in a valley called Hexabarger about a mile west of the village of Kingwood, Somerset Co., Pa. Jacob (1780-1842) was the son of Jacob and Mary Margaret (Nein) Minerd. Catherine (1787-1847) was the daughter of John and Catharine Younkin.

Jacob must have relied on his in-laws' help early in his marriage because in 1811, at the death of his wife's uncle, Jacob Younkin, he owed the deceased's estate \$10.91 for the "balance of a note." As the years passed, he prospered as a farmer and distiller. In 1837, he and son John bought part of a 500-acre farm, called "Hunting Lot," on which they had been living. It featured an excellent upland meadow.

Jacob and Catherine eventually had nine children, including seven sons and two daughters. As the older sons grew to manhood they built homes on different sections of Hunting Lot, knowing they eventually would purchase their parts. They did some creative gerrymandering with their boundaries so that they could share the meadow.

Jacob supported the Whig political party and was a member of the Christian Church of Turkeyfoot. In his will dated 11 Feb 1842, he asked his wife for "her utmost care respectively in and about the morals and education of my children...and desire that they be brought up in the doctrines and religion of the Christian Church."

Jacob was crushed while cutting down a tree and died at age 62 on 11 Nov 1842. He was buried at the Christian Church. An inventory of his possessions at that time was valued at \$566.79, and included 19 cows, 20 sheep, 3 horses, 2 hogs, 12 geese, a windmill, a cider mill and many household and farming items. Widow Catherine continued to live in their Hexabarger home until her death on 12 Aug 1847, of stomach trouble.

Below are short biographical sketches of their children, based on extensive historical research. It is interesting to note that though they were born in Kingwood, each left the county as adults, and several dropped the "d" from their last name.

John Miner — 1804-1879 John and his wife, Sarah Ansell and their six children lived on the Hunting Lot farm until 1864, when they moved to a farm near Normalville, Fayette Co., Pa. John appears to have been both strict and compassionate. When his daughter, Catharine, wished to marry Charles Rose in 1846, he opposed the idea. Wrote eyewitness Balaam Younkin: "The two eloped, and agreed to be man and wife. But her Father afterward forgave them, and called them home and insisted on them being legally married, which they did."

John's wife died shortly after they moved to Normalville. He then married her sister, Hannah Ansell, in Nov 1867. John died on 12 Nov 1879, and is buried in an unmarked grave either at the Normalville Cemetery or in a private plot on a farm once belonging to son Martin. Two sons, Henry A. and Martin, and at least two sons in law, Charles Rose and Andrew Jackson Rose, served in the Civil War.

Burket Miner — 1807-? Not very much is known about Burket. In 1836 he appears on a Turkeyfoot Twp. tax list, and was assessed for 50 acres. In July 1837 he bought a "hand axe, frow and bell" on credit for \$1.48 at the estate sale of the late Henry Younkin. His taxable land increased the following year to 400 acres, but by 1839 he had left the area.

Burket married Susan Hartzell and had at least 7 children. In 1850 he lived in Preston Co., Va. (now W. Va.) and worked as a house carpenter.

Henry Miner — 1809-1890 Henry married Mary/Polly Younkin in the 1830s, and they had 11 children. In

1851, Henry sold his farm at a \$255 loss, most likely due to a disastrous fire which destroyed his home and left the family "with nothing but the shirts on their backs." He soon after moved away with his family, leaving only son Ephraim and daughter Sarah behind in Kingwood. Why Henry did not rebuild with the help of his neighbors — brothers John, Jacob and Charles — is not known.

Family life included many hardships. Wife Polly was epileptic, and their son Harrison was mentally retarded. Polly once had a seizure while holding her infant son Jakey. They fell into a burning fireplace, and were helpless to move. Another son, Ephraim, a young boy, had enough presence of mind to pull them out. She was saved, but her face and head were severely burned, and the baby died. Polly's mother witnessed the horror, ran outside screaming for help, had a heart attack, and fell over dead.

Henry appears to have been especially strong willed. His son Chaucey, who fought in the Civil War and lived afterward in Illinois, later wrote: "On account of my father's objection to my enlistment I did not return home."

Henry spent his remaining years as a farm laborer and moved frequently. In the 1860 census he was in Marshall Cop., W. Va.; in 1870 was in Morris Twp., Greene Co., Pa.; and in 1880 was in Gilmore Twp., Greene Co., Pa. Polly died in 1886 and Henry in 1890, at age 81, and they are buried on the old Phillips farm near New Freeport, Greene Co. Their graves were unmarked until 1946, when their grandson, William Allen Miner, purchased a stone.

Laura Younkin — 1813-? Little is known about "Lory" Minerd, who married John M. Younkin in about 1847. The couple lived near Paddytown in Upper Turkeyfoot Twp. and had 10 children. He was a farm laborer and she a "spinster" and housekeeper. She died before 1880, and he moved in with son Charles Younkin in the village of Casselman. Another son, Daniel Martin Younkin, was profiled in the 1906 book, *History of Bedford and Somerset Counties*.

Jacob Miner — 1817-1907 In 1849, at age 32, he built a two-story, oaken log house on the Hunting Lot farm that still stands. He lived there with his wife Rachel Ansell, daughter Elizabeth Miner, and Rachel's unmarried sister Susan Ansell, who had a hare lip. He also was a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church and persuaded his brother John to donate land so that "a house of worship" could be built. When cousin Jonas H. Younkin died in 1855, Jacob received 50 cents from the estate for services he had rendered.

In April 1865 he bought a farm near Normalville and opened a coal mine there. Rachel died in May of 1887. Jacob became the legal guardian of his 3 grandchildren when their father, George Long, died in 1871. He served as their guardian until 1903, when they all had reached adulthood. Jacob suffered from a serious foot problem, causing his niece to write in 1892: "They don't think he can live long. They [sic] Dr. says he will have to have his foot taken off and he thinks he can't stand the operation. He says he will die first." Though he lived for 15 years after the letter was written, he could not sleep at night unless he swallowed a spoonful of Laudanum, a sedative, just before bedtime. In 1900 he lived in Connellsville with his grandson William Jacob Long and peddled "notions." He died in East Scottsdale, Pa., on 31 Oct 1907 at age 90, and his buried beside his wife at Normalville.

Charles Minerd — 1819-1898 Charles was very responsible and his good interpersonal skills. When his father died, Charles, age 23, was chosen to hand-deliver cash to a number of neighbors to pay off small debts. He also cared for his widowed mother's needs. In her words, he "faithfully,

(Continued on Page 11)

Bits & Pieces

(Continued from Page 8)

Vol. 8 #1, pg. 5 — Orphans Court Abstracts, Somerset County, Docket 2:

May Court 1815. Petition of Abraham YOUNKIN, minor son of Jacob YOUNKIN dec'd, requesting the Court to allow him to choose John GEBHART as his guardian. Approved. 29 May 1815.

Vol. 8 #2, pg. 13, 14, 16, 17 — 1875 Tax List, Lower Turkeyfoot Twp., Somerset County:

FREEHOLDERS:

P.B.C.C. & (J?) Co. (—?) 200 acres (600); (McNEIL) 429 acres (1,375); (SANNER) 300 acres (1,200); (KUHLMAN) 270 acres (1,320); (FAIDLY) 40 acres (150); (YOUNKIN) 40 acres (300); (BALDWIN) 146 acres (600); (BOGS) 400 acres (400).

Jacob J. Younk: 13 acres (58); 2 horses (60); 1 cow (10); farmer

Balamb Younk: 69 3/4 acres (550); 2 horses (90); 3 cows (45); farmer

Jacob W. Younk: 165 acres (450); 2 horses (50); 2 cows (30); farmer

TENANTS:

John H. Younk: 2 horses (65); 2 cows (30); farmer

John (X?) Younk: no taxables listed (30)

Levi Younk: laborer (30); militia man

SINGLE FREEMEN:

Winfield S. Younk: laborer (30); militia man

Vol. 8 #3, pg. 6 — Common Pleas Minutes, Somerset County, Docket B.:

May Term 1813. 1 June 1813 : Frederick Younk served on a jury. [He also served on 2 June 1813]

Vol. 8 #3, pg. 25 — Sheriff And Treasurer Deeds Somerset County, Docket A:

1 Sep 1831. Joseph IMHOFF, High Sheriff, came into Court and acknowledged his deed to Michael (SANNER?) Esq. for 1/7th part of one plantation containing 216 acres (40 acres cleared), with one house and barn thereon erected, adjoining lands of ----- LICHLLITER and others. Also 1/10th part of William JOHNSTON's estate, a plantation containing 140 acres (50 acres cleared), adjoining Frederick YOUNKIN and others, with one house and barn erected thereon. Also his share of another plantation containing 200 acres, adjoining John McMILLEN Esq. Sold as the property of Charles YOUNKIN at the suit of Samuel BALDWIN. Consideration: \$45. (page 38)

Vol. 8 #4, pg. 6 — Common Pleas Minutes, Somerset County, Docket B:

August Term 1813. 1 Sep 1813. Henry YOUNKIN served on the jury.

Vol. 8 #4, pg. 25 — Sheriff and Treasurer Deeds, Somerset County, Docket A:

9 Dec 1831. John WITT Esq., High Sheriff, came into Court and acknowledged his deed to Michael SANNER Jr. for 1/9th part of William JOHNSTON's estate, being a certain plantation containing 140 acres (50 acres cleared), adjoining Frederick YOUNKIN and others. Also "His share" of another plantation in Turkeyfoot Twp. containing 200 acres, adjoining John M. MILLER Esq. Sold as the property of George YOUNKIN at the suit of Michael SANNOR. Consideration: \$6.50. The previous Sheriff, Joseph IMHOFF Esq., by whom this sale was originally made, by expiration of his term of office, had been prevented from executing a deed for said premises. (page 46)

Letters to the Editor:

Dear Donna...

Hello Donna, glad to get your letter. I'm in shape where it's hard to get around & Dr. still takes your money, but can't do much to make life easier for me.

Donna I believe that all Younkins are related, we could be 3rd or 4th cousins, but I know all or most of our great grandparents & etc. came from Penn. My granddad was 96 years old when he passed away in Great Bend, Kansas. He was in the Civil War on the Union side, and from what he told me he was in several fights, but the one he always talked about was the battle of Chipmoga where he was wounded and almost died. He told us kids many tales of all the hardships the soldiers went through, I expect some were true, & maybe some were imagined.

As a young man he came from Somerset Co., and later on went to Indiana, where he and some of his folks had a potters shop.

I wish I could be at the reunion but I'm afraid that I can't make it. Thanks for your nice letter.

Sincerely,

Charles W. Younk

16 Washington Ave.

Lake Placid, FL 33852

Dear Charles,

Yes, you are absolutely right — we are all cousins. You and I are third cousins - twice removed.

Your line goes as follows:

[Charles W. Younk⁶, William Ellsworth Younk⁵, John Deitz Younk⁴, Samuel Younk³, Jacob Younk², Henry Junghen¹]

My line is:

[Donna Younk Logan⁸, Donald Edgar Younk⁷, Karst Eugene Younk⁶, William Eugene Younk⁵, Aaron Schrock Younk⁴, Dr. Jonas Younk³, Jacob Younk², Henry Junghen¹]

The two men, Jacob and Henry, that are in **BOLD** are our two common ancestors. Jacob's son's, Dr. Jonas and Samuel were, of course, brothers.

I, too, am sorry that you won't be at the reunion, but I surely do understand. We will miss you though, and will say a special prayer that next year you will be in better health and will be able to join your cousins back in Somerset!

Your cousin,

Donna

P.S. Enclosed is a birthday card in celebration of your birthday on August 7, 'Happy 88th'.

Note to readers: See photograph of Charles and some of his family on page 14.

Dear Donna...

One significant thing about the [Miner] reunion was that strangers met strangers and developed relationships. I brought a large photograph taken at the 1920 Miner reunion. One stranger pointed to people in the picture and said, 'There's my father and mother,' and another stranger pointed to others and said, 'That's my grandfather and grandmother,' and I said, 'They were cousins,' and all of a sudden these strangers connected psychologically, and friendships were created.

Mark A. Miner

2529 Materhorn Dr.

Wexford, Pa. 15090

Dear Mark,

I know just what you mean and how they felt. I have met so many new cousins that only a few years ago I had no idea existed! And what I joy they have brought to my life!

Donna

Younkin/Minerd Update

(Continued from Page 9)

carefully and diligently labored for me and managed all my business...[and] performed every thing that a dutiful son could do to promote my comfort, convenience, and interest." In 1847, just days before her death, she wrote a special deed bequeathing him horses, cows, sheep and hogs; stores of wheat, rye, oats and buckwheat; all her farming utensils and household furniture.

Charles delayed marrying Adaline Harbaugh until a month after his mother's death. He then bought his mother's portion of the farm and lived there for 20 years with his family of 9 children. In 1867, he moved to a farm at Maple Summit, Fayette Co., Pa. When two of his daughters had children out of wedlock, Charles raised the boy and girl as his own. By 1893 his health had begun to fail, and he suffered from rheumatism and "spells." Charles died on 16 Aug 1898, at age 79, and is buried beside his wife at the Peoples' United Church of Maple Summit.

Catherine Barnhouse — 1824-1876 Catherine married Harrison Barnhouse, several years her junior, in the 1840s. They lived near Normalville and later in Dunbar Twp., near Connellsville, where he worked as a "coker." She died in Dunbar Twp. on 28 Jul 1876, at age 52. One of their five children, Esther, married Christian Stoner Freed and was elected as treasurer of the first Minerd Reunion, held at Ohioville on 28 Aug 1913.

Joel Minerd — 1827-1913 Joel moved to the Normalville area in his mid-20s and worked as a domestic servant and farmer. He was married twice, first to Margaret Jane Leighliter in the 1850s and then to Catherine Seneff, in 1862, who bore him 5 children. He and "Kate" owned a 126-acre farm near Rogers Mill from 1870 to 1905. In their later years they lived with son William Henry "Squire" Minerd near Mill Run. (Squire was a justice of the peace in Springfield township for 42 years.) Joel died at age 86 on 11 Aug 1913, the last survivor of his family. He and Kate are buried in unmarked plots at the Seneff Cemetery near Rogers Mill.

Eli Minerd — 1831-1911 Eli was only 16 when his mother died, leaving him an orphan, and the Somerset County Orphans Court appointed Jonas Younkin and Aaron Schrack as his legal guardians. In 1855 he married Mary Ann Baer, who bore him 7 children. She is said to have been a churchgoer, and wouldn't allow him to drink or smoke. In 1860 Eli lived near Connellsville and by 1870 had moved to Mount Pleasant, probably to take a job in the newly opened coal mines and coke ovens. His wife died at age 51 in May 1887, and apparently he never remarried. He also worked as a shoe cobbler in his later years.

Eli and brother Charles shared many similarities, and Eli traveled to Charles' home to go fishing. Five years before Eli died, his son William Osborne Minerd was tragically killed in a railroad accident in Connellsville. At age 79, Eli fell down a flight of stairs at his home, was hospitalized, caught pneumonia, and died a few days later, on 11 Apr 1911. He and Mary Ann are buried in the Alverton Cemetery near Mount Pleasant.

Mark Miner and his family

From left: Eric, Mark, Connie, Scott, and Wayne Miner

[Mark Alan Miner⁹, Odger 'Wayne' Miner⁸, Odger Miner⁷, Harry Orlan Miner⁶, Andrew Jackson Miner⁵, Henry Minerd⁴, Catherine Younkin³, John Younkin², Henry Junghen¹] also [Andrew Jackson Miner's wife was Mary Polly Younkin of unknown ancestry]

»



Joel Minerd

(Photo taken at Ward's Studio, Connellsville, Pa.)



Isaac H. and Eli Minerd

(Isaac is standing)





Map of Somerset County...

including many of the areas where our family lived.
Save this as a reference when you read the stories of our
families you'll see where they were. More maps coming
as I think they help present a clearer picture.

*Note the YOUNKIN SCHOOL just below Kingwood in Upper Turkeyfoot!

Update on Herman Junghen's line:

Previous to the following obituary, we only had Anita Eyster's conclusion (no source was given) that Abraham, son of Abraham Youngkin, and grandson of Herman Youngkin had "removed to Washington County, Ohio; his wife was named Sarah," stated Mrs. Eyster.

This obituary, from an unknown descendant, was given to Della Shafer (see story in YFNB Vol. 2 #2 Pg. 10) and in turn given to me. They also gave her a photograph of Abraham taken in Aug of 1872 but unfortunately for the newsletter the photostatic copy just isn't printable. We're hoping to get a better copy and if so I will print it in a future issue.

Mrs. Susan Beeson

At Yoakum, Texas, on January 30, 1907, at the home of her only surviving child, Mrs. T. M. Dodd, there departed this life Mrs. Susan Beeson, aged eighty-seven years, nine months and six days.

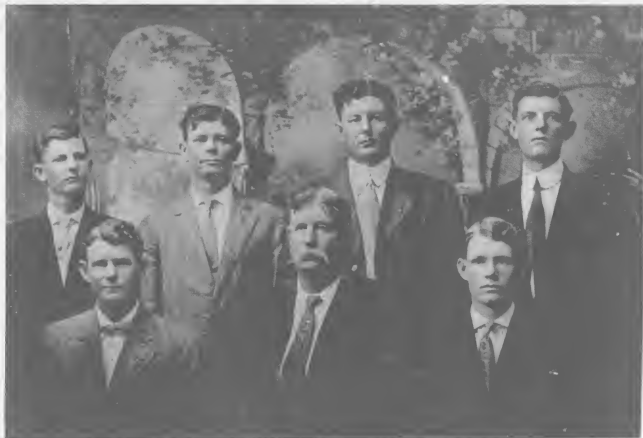
We "stand up before that hoary head" and do honor to that "crown of glory" which was ever "found in the way of righteousness."

Born at Lancaster, Ohio, April 24, 1819, the daughter of Abraham and Sarah Youngkin, her childhood and youth were spent in her native state. In 1842, she was married to Dr. Jesse Beeson, and settled soon after in Van Buren, Ohio, where she remained until 1856. Here her three children were born, a son and two daughters. In June, 1856, the family moved to Fon du Lac, Wisconsin, and a year later to Texas, in which state she spent the remainder of a long and useful life ...

In addition we also have the marriage record for Abraham Youngkin and Sarah Montgomery. Their marriage took place on 6 Nov 1811 in Washington County, Ohio (Washington County, OH. marriage records).

We have also found the family Robert M. Youngkin living in Kansas and Della is working on getting us more information of that line.

We have not been able to prove that this is Herman's line but the evidence is certainly stacking up.



Front row, from left: John Abraham "Ponnie" Youngkin Jr., John Abraham Youngkin Sr., Robert Henry "Jim" Youngkin. Back Row, from left: Clay Youngkin, Josiah Shafer Youngkin II, Francis "Frank" Youngkin, Albert Youngkin.

See this family's story in YFNB vol. 2 #2 pg. 10 - [John Abraham⁵, Henry Clay⁴, Abraham³, Abraham², Herman¹]

More Kansas Cousins



Front row: from left, Michael & Julia Schneck, Gretchen & Andrew Vinson, Thomas & Cheryl Weaver, John Weaver, Eric Schneck, Donelle Rey, Wendy Atkeson and Darise Fillmore. Middle row: David & Christopher Schneck, Janice Schneck, *Charles W. Younkin, *Ellen Younkin, *Willis Younkin, Donna Atkeson, Matthew & Dee Anne Proctor, and Mark & Andrew Proctor. Back row: Gary Schneck, Beverly Schneck, Lawrence Schneck Jr., Bill Vinson, Susan Vinson, Ralph &

Carolee Vinson, Dale Atkeson, Del Rey, Danny Atkeson and Rod Weaver.

[Photo courtesy of Janice Schneck, Larned, Kansas, taken on 10 Mar 1990;

*brothers, Charles and Willis Younkin with Ellen (Quigley) Younkin widow of their brother, Donald John Younkin.]

[Charles, Willis and Donald John Younkin⁶, William Ellsworth⁵, John Deitz⁴, Samuel³, Jacob², Henry¹]



**Family of Charles & Adaline
Miner ca 1895**

(Charles is seated at far right, Adaline is not pictured)

Federal Census Records...

our route to family histories

Everytime you gripe about all the "paperwork" remember ... without the "paper trail" our ancestors left us genealogy would cease to exist!

Did you receive the Census in 1990 — and a bigger question — did you fill it out ??? The 1990 census will be a big disappointment to genealogists in future years. There was very little in the way of family information on most of them. As I sat and filled it in, I thought 'what good will any of these questions do my great-great-grandchildren?'

In the past, census questions were full of family information...from what year they immigrated to the United States to where their parents were born.

Much of the information that is presented in the YFNB's has its roots in the census records we have researched. Each census year, which began in 1790, has different information (the 1890 census was, for the most part, destroyed in a fire).

1790 Census - shows name of male head of house and groups males to age 16 and 16 +; females are all lumped together with no age differential.

1800 - 1840 Census - shows name of male head of house and groups males and females in smaller age groupings. By the 1830 census we have 13 different age categories for both males and females.

1850 Census - This is the first year the census names each person living in the household, age, sex, color, occupation, value of real estate, place of birth, married in the past year, in school this year, can't read/write, deaf, blind, insane, etc. In addition it shows not only what state and county but also their post office address.

1860 Census - Same as 1850 but also shows value of personal estate.

1870 Census - Same as 1860 but also shows father/mother foreign born, month born if born in the last year, month married if married in the last year.

1880 Census - First census to give the relationship to head of house (i.e. si = sister, mo = mother), months unemployed, place of birth of mother and father of each person in the household (very helpful for tracing family migration routes — if one child was born in 1853 in Pennsylvania and the next child was born in 1855 in Ohio. You know the family left Pa. sometime between 1853 and 1855!). This census also named the city/twp./street address where the family lived.

1900 Census - First census to give the month and year of birth of each person in the household as well as their age at last birthday, marital status (single, married, widowed, divorced) and number of years married, number of children born and number of children living, the year of immigration, number of years in the United States, whether or not they were *naturalized*, ownership (rent or own) of home and whether or not they owned it free or mortgaged it, and whether it was a farm or house.

1910 Census - the only age category was 'age at last birthday', and Union/Confederate survivor was added to this census year.

NOTE: Individual states also took their own censuses. Often they did them in 10 year cycles too, but were usually taken five years after the federal census. (1855, 1865, 1875, and so on). So if you need further verification of a particular family try the state census. Each state requested different information but quite often they asked very different questions than did the federal census.

Congratulations...

Somerset County High School graduates:

Somerset High School: Holly Younkin
Turkeyfoot Valley High School: Regina Younkin
Rockwood High School: Jason Younkin, Jennifer Younkin,
 Kevin Younkin, Patricia Younkin
 [Daily American, Somerset, Pa. Monday, June 3, 1991]



ADJUSTING HER CAP—Regina Younkin, left, adjusts the cap of her friend Barb Halls, before graduation ceremony Sunday at Turkeyfoot Valley Area High School.

(Photo by Heidi Kinsinger; Daily American, Somerset, Pa., June 3, 1991)



Larry and Donna (Younkin) Logan
 Winter 1990



The five sons of Harvey Carl and Georgianna (Moon) Younkin
From left: Kenneth 'Ken' Floyd, Richard 'Dick' Carl, Edward 'Ed' Earl, James 'Jim' Derbert and William 'Ben' Chalmers Younkin.

[Harvey Carl⁶, William Lincoln⁵, Frederick⁴, Jacob³, Jacob², Henry¹]

[Photo, taken about 1936, is courtesy of Richard 'Dick' Younkin]
Plus Harvey's wife line of: Georgianna Moon⁶, Harriet Younkin⁵, Jacob W.⁴, Jacob³, Jacob², Henry¹]

A Tribute to Our Family

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